

Message Text

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13

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5912

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, MA

SUBJECT: INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FEBRUARY 13 LETTER FROM MALAGASY

PERM REP TO SYG, ATTACHING FEBRUARY 9 MESSAGES TO SYG

FROM MALAGASY PRESIDENT, DISTRIBUTED AS GA DOCUMENT

A/31/52 AND SC DOCUMENT S/11981:

QUOTE

LETTER DATED 13 FEBRUARY 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

OF MADAGASCAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ADDRESSED TO THE

SECRETARY -GENERAL

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO REFER TO THE MESSAGE, A COPY OF

WHICH IS NEEDED HERETO, ADDRESSED TO YOU ON 9 FEBRUARY

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1976 BY HIS EXCELLENCY COMMANDER DIDIER RATSIRAKA, PRESIDENT

OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR.
ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM MY GOVERNMENT, I HAVE THE HONOUR
TO REQUEST YOU TO HAVE THIS TEXT CIRCULATED TO THE PERMANENT
MISSIONS OF MEMBER STATES AND TO THE OFFICES OF PERMENENT
OBSERVERS AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL, IN CONNEXION WITH THE QUESTIONS WITH WHICH THE COUNCIL
HAS BEEN SEIZED DURING FEBRUARY 1976, AND OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY IN CONNEXION, IN PARTICULAR, WITH ITEMS 24 AND 38
OF THE PRELIMINARY LIST OF ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROVISIONAL
AGENDA OF THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

THE TEXT OF THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN COMMUNICATED TO HIS EXCELLENCY
FIELD MARSHAL IDI AMIN DADA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF UGANDA AND CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN
UNITY, AND TO HIS EXCELLENCY MR. HOUARI BOUMEDIENNE,
PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA, AND
CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES.
(SIGNED) BLAISE RABETAFIKA AMBASSADOR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
ANNEX

MESSAGE DATED 9 FEBRUARY 1976 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF
THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR, ADDRESSED TO THE SEC-
RETARY-GENERAL

YOU WILL NO DOUBT HAVE NOTED THAT THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF MADAGASCAR, WHICH HAS CLEARLY DEFINED ITS POSITION IN
RESPECT OF WESTERN SAHARA BY PRONOUNCING IN FAVOUR OF INDE-
PENDENCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE COUNTRY UNDER THE AEGIS OF
POLISARIO, AND IN RESPECT OF ANGOLA BY RECOGNIZING THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA UNDER THE AEGIS OF MOVIMENTO POPULAR DE
LIBERTACAO DE ANGOLA. HAS NOT, HOWEVER, RAISED ITS VOICE
AGAINST THE MULTIFARIOUS MANOEUVRES CONDUCTED IN THE ARE OF
THE INDIAN OCEAN, WHICH ARE NEVERTHELESS A SOURCE OF
TENSIONS AND A CAUSE OF CONSTANT SERIOUS CONCERN.

THIS ATTITUDE HAS BEEN PROMPTED BY OUR DESIRE NOT TO ADD
FUEL TO THE FLAMES. HOWEVER, IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES,
IT IS NO LONGER PERMISSIBLE TO REMAIN SILENT, SILENCE HAS
BECOME INTOLERABLE, MUTENESS CONDEMNABLE, AND ANY
COMPROMISE SYNONYMOUS WITH SURRENDER.
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THE FIRST REFERENDU HELD BY FRANCE IN DECEMBER 1974 SHOULD
HAVE SETTLED ONCE AND FOR ALL THE QUESTION OF THE COMORO
ARCHIPELAGO, 96 PERCENT OF WHICH VOTED "YES" , NOVEMBER
1975. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE FAIL TO UNDERSTAND WHY ANOTHER
REFERENDUM SHOULD BE HELD ON THE SAME QUESTIONM WE BELIEVE,
FOR OUR PART, THAT THE BALKANIZATION OF THE COMOROS WILL RESOLVE
NOTHING AND THAT FRIENDLY CO-OPERATION BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE

COMOROS WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE IF CONDUCTED THROUGH A UNITED,
FREE AND INDEPENDENT GROUPING OF THE COMOROS, FROM WHICH
MAYOTTE WILL NATURALLY BENEFIT.

THE MALAGASY PEOPLE, FOR THEIR PART, CONSIDERS THEIR
INDEPENDENCE INCOMPLETE AS LONG AS PORTIONS OF AFRICAN
TERRITORY REMAIN UNDER FOREIGN DOMINATION. IT IS FOR THIS
REASON THAT WE HAVE NEVER RENOUNCED OUR RIGHTS OVER THE SMALL ISLANDS
OF THE INDIAN OCEAN INCLUDING JUAN DE NOVA, WHICH HIS-
TORICALLY, GEOGRAPHICALLY AND LEGALLY, HAVE ALWAYS CONSTITUTED
AN INTEGRAL PART OF MALAGASY NATIONAL
TERRITORY.

IT IS ALSO FOR THIS REASON THAT WE CONTINUE
TO FIGHT AT THE SIDE OF PEOPLES STRUGGLING FOR
THEIR INDEPENDENCE AND LIBERTY. THIS IS PARTICULARLY
TRUE IN THE CASE OF DJIBOUTI IN WHICH WE FAVOUR TRUE
INDEPENDENCE FOR THE TERRITORY UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF
THE AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE, AND CONDEMN THE
AGGRESSION PERPETRATED AGAINST OUR BROTHERS OF THE SOMALI
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC.

I THEREFORE HAVE THE HONOUR TO REQUEST THAT YOU, IN CO-OPERATION
WITH THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND THE NON-ALIGNED
GROUP, TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ELIMINATE THESE VARIOUS
SOURCES OF TENSION WHICH STAND TO ENDANGER THE SECURITY
OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION AND TO SERVE THE IMPERIALIST AIMS
OF DELAYING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE
OF PEACE, FREE OF FOREIGN MILITARY BASES AND OF ALL FOREIGN
MILITARY PRESENCE.

(SIGNED) DIDIER RATSIRAKA
PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR
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